



## Public health in Canada and adaptation to infectious disease risks of climate change: Are we planning or just keeping our fingers crossed?

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**Author(s):** Ogden NH, Sockett P, Fleury M  
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### Abstract:

Climate change is expected to increase the health risks for Canadians from infectious diseases from our environment, including vector-borne, waterborne, and food-borne diseases. Adaptation efforts will be important to reduce the impact of these risks. Public health systems are in place in Canada to control many disease risks but there are still knowledge gaps on, and modifications needed to, existing approaches to protecting the population from endemic diseases and new or emerging pathogens. This chapter addresses five key questions on whether public health is on track to helping communities adapt to changing risks. The questions address adaptation to disease risk of climate change by exploring the following: assessments of disease risks, methods for adaptation, responsibility, resources, and public action and societal will. Overall, with these increasing risks to the health of Canadians, all sectors of society will need to participate in the adaptive response, while federal, provincial, and community public health bodies will need to work together to identify and communicate risk and promote and coordinate adaptation responses.

**Source:** [http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-94-007-0567-8\\_11](http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-94-007-0567-8_11)  
[http://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007%2F978-94-007-0567-8\\_11](http://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007%2F978-94-007-0567-8_11)

### Resource Description

#### Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Changes, Extreme Weather Event, Precipitation, Temperature

**Temperature:** Fluctuations

#### Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

#### Geographic Location:

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

**Non-United States:** Non-U.S. North America

**Health Impact:** ☒

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Infectious Disease

**Infectious Disease:** Airborne Disease, Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, General Infectious Disease, Vectorborne Disease, Zoonotic Disease

**Foodborne/Waterborne Disease:** E. coli, General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

**Vectorborne Disease:** Flea-borne Disease, Fly-borne Disease, General Vectorborne, Mosquito-borne Disease, Tick-borne Disease

**Flea-borne Disease:** Flea-borne Diseases, General

**Fly-borne Disease:** General Fly-borne Disease

**Mosquito-borne Disease:** Dengue, General Mosquito-borne Disease, Malaria, West Nile Virus

**Tick-borne Disease:** General Tick-borne Disease, Lyme Disease

**Zoonotic Disease:** General Zoonotic Disease, Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome, Other Zoonotic Disease

**Zoonotic Disease (other):** Bartonellosis; Rabies

**Medical Community Engagement:** ☒

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

**Mitigation/Adaptation:** ☒

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

**Resource Type:** ☒

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion, Review

**Timescale:** ☒

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified